

DESCRIPTION

PROJECTION APPARATUS AND IMAGE ACQUISITION METHOD

Technical Field

5 The present invention relates to a projection apparatus and an image acquisition method which project a document image onto a screen.

Background Art

In conventional presentation on projects, commodity or
10 so, a document stored as data in a personal computer (PC) or a document comprised of texts and diagrams or so is projected, magnified, onto a screen by a projector. A typical projector has a structure which uses an image converting element such as a liquid crystal or a micro-mirror array, and converts image information of a document
15 output as video signals from a PC to projection light.

In presentation, persons who participate in the presentation often directly write comments, underlines or so on a projected document (on the screen). Therefore, it is
20 often the case where a white board is used as a projection screen. In case where a presenter such as a document creator wants to use comments or so written by a participant, e.g., in case where the presenter wants to correct the contents of the document referring to the comments or so or
25 add the comments or so to the document, a so-called

electronic board is used as a screen and comments or so handwritten on the electronic board are saved by a hard copy (print) or the image of a white board or so is picked up by a digital camera prepared separately to be saved as image data. For example, Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-169211 describes a projector equipped with a camera, though the usage is totally different.

In case of using handwritten information on a screen which is saved as mentioned above, however, when a document to be used in presentation contains a large number of sheets (pages), it is difficult to determine the correlation between the number of pieces of saved handwritten information and the number of pages of the document after presentation. In case where the number of pieces of saved handwritten information does not match with the number of pages of the document (normally, the number of pieces of saved handwritten information is often smaller than the number of pages of the document), particularly, it is difficult to determine the correlation between the saved handwritten information and the pages of the document.

The present invention has been made to overcome the conventional problem and aims at providing a projection apparatus and an image acquisition method which can use handwritten information on a screen.

One of preferable modes of the invention is a projection apparatus that projects a document image, generated based on a document, onto a screen, and comprises:

5 a projection section (14) which projects the document image onto the screen (S);

an image pickup section (16) which picks up an image of the screen (S);

10 a processor section (11) which acquires a first picked-up image on the screen (S) by causing the projection section (14) to project the document image onto the screen (S) and causing the image pickup section (16) to pick up the image of the screen (S), and acquires a second picked-up image of only recorded information recorded on the screen (S) by causing the projection section (14) to stop projecting the 15 document image onto the screen (S) and causing the image pickup section (16) to pick up the image of the screen (S); and

20 an image memory section (4) which stores the first picked-up image and the second picked-up image, acquired by the processor section (11), as data in association with each other.

Another preferable mode of the invention is an image acquisition method that acquires information on a screen as an image, and comprises:

25 a step which projects document image generated based on

a document onto the screen;

a step which acquires a first picked-up image including recorded information recorded on the screen by picking up an image of the screen;

5 a step which stops projection of the document image;

a step which acquires a second picked-up image of only the recorded information recorded on the screen by picking up the image of the screen; and

10 a step which stores the first picked-up image and the second picked-up image in association with each other.

Brief Description of Drawings

These objects and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent upon reading of 15 the following detailed description and the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a structural diagram of a projection system illustrating first and fourth to sixth embodiments of the present invention;

20 Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing the schematic structures of a projector and personal computer common to the first, fourth and fifth embodiments;

Fig. 3 is a flowchart illustrating the operation of the projector according to the first embodiment;

25 Fig. 4A is an explanatory diagram showing one example

of a document image to be stored in the first embodiment;

Fig. 4B is an explanatory diagram showing one example of a handwritten information image to be stored in the first embodiment;

5 Fig. 5 is a structural diagram of a projection system common to second, third and eighth embodiments of the invention;

10 Fig. 6 is a block diagram showing the schematic structures of a projector and personal computer in the projection system;

Fig. 7 is a flowchart illustrating the operation of the projector according to the second, third and eighth embodiments;

15 Fig. 8 is an explanatory diagram showing a text recognized area in a document image according to the second, third and eighth embodiments;

Fig. 9 is a flowchart illustrating the procedures of an image pasting routine done by the personal computer according to the second, third and eighth embodiments;

20 Fig. 10 is a flowchart illustrating the operation of the projector according to the third embodiment of the invention;

25 Fig. 11 is an explanatory diagram showing a text recognized area in a document image according to the third embodiment;

Fig. 12 is a flowchart illustrating the procedures of an image pasting routine done by the personal computer according to the third embodiment;

5 Fig. 13 is a flowchart illustrating the procedures of an image pasting routine done by the personal computer according to the fourth embodiment;

Fig. 14 is a flowchart illustrating the operations of the projector and personal computer during projection of a document according to the fifth embodiment;

10 Fig. 15 is an explanatory diagram showing one example of a projected image according to the fifth embodiment;

Fig. 16 is a flowchart illustrating the procedures of an image pasting routine done by the personal computer according to the fifth embodiment;

15 Fig. 17 is a block diagram showing the schematic structures of the projector and personal computer according to the sixth embodiment;

Fig. 18 is a flowchart illustrating the operations of the projector and personal computer during projection of a 20 document according to the sixth embodiment;

Fig. 19 is an explanatory diagram showing display history information which is created by the personal computer according to the sixth embodiment;

25 Fig. 20 is a flowchart illustrating the procedures of an image pasting routine done by the personal computer

according to the sixth embodiment;

Fig. 21 is a structural diagram of a projection system illustrating a seventh embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 22 is a block diagram showing the schematic structures of a projector and personal computer which 5 constitute the projection system;

Fig. 23 is a flowchart illustrating the operations of the projector and personal computer during projection of a document according to the seventh embodiment;

10 Fig. 24 is an explanatory diagram showing image management data which is created by the personal computer according to the seventh embodiment;

Fig. 25 is a flowchart illustrating the procedures of an image pasting routine done by the personal computer 15 according to the seventh embodiment;

Fig. 26 is a flowchart illustrating the operations of the projector and personal computer during projection of a document according to the eighth embodiment of the invention;

20 Fig. 27 is an explanatory diagram showing the contents of appended data of an image file which is recorded by the projector according to the eighth embodiment; and

Fig. 28 is an explanatory diagram showing display history information which is created by the personal 25 computer according to the eighth embodiment.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

One preferred embodiment of the present invention is described below with reference to the accompanying drawings.
(First Embodiment)

5 Fig. 1 is a structural diagram of a projection system according to the first embodiment. This projection system projects the display image of a document comprised of texts and diagrams or so onto a screen S, such as a white board, acquires texts or so written on the screen S by image pickup
10 and saves the handwritten texts or so and the display image as one set. The projection system comprises a projector 1 and a personal computer (PC) 2. The projector 1 and the PC 2 are connected together by an RGB cable 3. The projector 1 is used to project a document in presentation or so and
15 incorporates a digital camera for picking up the image of the screen S, such as a white board. A projection section 1a and a image pickup section 1b are provided side by side on the front side of the main body of the projector 1. The projection section 1a comprises an optical system, such as a
20 projection lens, which projects a display image. The image pickup section 1b comprises an optical system, such as an image pickup lens, which picks up an image. Further, the projector 1 has a slot (not shown) where a memory card 4 is to be loaded and data is given to the PC 2 via the memory
25 card 4.

Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing the schematic structures of the projector 1 and the PC 2. The projector 1 mainly comprises a CPU (Central Processing Unit) 11, a ROM (Read Only Memory) 12, a RAM (Random Access Memory) 13, a display section 14, a key input section 15, a digital camera section 16 and a card interface circuit 17. The projector 1 also has an input terminal 18 for RGB signals to which the RGB cable 3 is connected.

The card interface circuit 17 serves to carry out data input/output with respect to the memory card 4. The memory card 4 stores images or so picked up by the digital camera section 16.

The display section 14 projects a document image of a document (comprised of texts and diagrams or so) output from the PC 2 onto the screen S and includes a light source, an image converting element, a drive circuit and an optical system.

The light source, like a krypton lamp, emits light. The image converting element converts light from the light source to projection light and comprised of a liquid crystal or micro-mirror array.

The drive circuit drives the image converting element in accordance with RGB signals input from the input terminal 18.

The optical system comprises the projection lens or so

in the projection section 1a.

The key input section 15 is prepared for a user to operate the projector 1 and has a plurality of operation buttons, such as an operation button for an image pickup 5 operation.

The digital camera section 16 picks up the image of the screen S as a subject as a predetermined operation button constituting the key input section 15 is depressed. The digital camera section 16 has an optical system, an image pickup element and an image data processing circuit (none shown). The optical system comprises the image pickup lens or so in the image pickup section 1b. The image pickup element photoelectrically converts an optical image formed by the optical system into an image signal and comprises a CMOS sensor, CCD or the like. The image data processing circuit compresses a picked-up image, output from the image pickup element and converted to a digital signal. The digital camera section 16 finally records generated imaged data as an image file of the JPEG format in the memory card 10 15 20 4 via the card interface circuit 17.

A program is stored in the ROM 12. The CPU 11 controls the aforementioned individual sections using the RAM 13 as a work memory in accordance with the program stored in the ROM 12. Specifically, the CPU 11 acquires a picked-up image 25 including a document and recorded information recorded on

the screen S by causing the display section 14 to project a document image onto the screen S and causing the digital camera section 16 to pick up the image of the screen S. The CPU 11 acquires a picked-up image containing only the 5 recorded information by causing the display section 14 to stop projecting a document image onto the screen S and causing the digital camera section 16 to pick up the image of the screen S. The CPU 11 stores the two acquired images as data in the memory card 4 in association with each other.

10 The input terminal 18 is provided in an unillustrated input image processing circuit connected to the CPU 11.

The PC 2 supplies the projector 1 with data of a document to be projected onto the screen S and comprises a RAM 22, a memory device 23, an input device 24, a display 15 device 25 and a card interface circuit 26.

The PC 2 has an output terminal 27 for RGB signals to which the RGB cable 3 is connected. The output terminal 27 is provided in an unillustrated image signal processing circuit connected to the CPU 11.

20 The memory device 23 comprises a hard disk or so with a relatively large memory capacity and stores a predetermined presentation program for creating and editing a document for presentation. The presentation program includes a plurality of commands selectable by a user, such as a command to 25 instruct the execution of a process of pasting an image of a

handwritten text or so to the display image of the document. The memory device 23 stores data of a document comprised of texts and diagrams or so to be projected onto the screen S as a document file.

5 The CPU 21 controls the individual sections using the RAM 13 as a work memory in accordance with the program stored in the memory device 23.

 The input device 24 has a plurality of keys provided on its main body and a mouse or so connected to the main body.

10 The card interface circuit 26 comprises an LCD, a drive circuit for the LCD and so forth. The card interface circuit 26 serves to carry out data input/output with respect to the memory card 4.

 The operations of the projector 1 and PC 2 are 15 described below.

 As a user designates a document to be projected onto the screen S by operating the input device 24 of the PC 2, the PC 2 responsively acquires its document data from the memory device 23. The PC 2 outputs the acquired document 20 data as RGB signals to the projector 1 via the RGB cable 3.

 The projector 1 projects the document, output as RGB signals from the PC 2, onto the screen S. During projection of a display image displayed on the screen S, the projector 1 records handwritten information according to a flowchart 25 illustrated in Fig. 3. It is premised in the following

description that handwritten information, such as comments and underlines, is directly written on the screen S by a participant in the presentation.

5 The projector 1 (CPU 11) determines whether or not an image pickup operation has been done (step SA1).

When the user depresses an operation button for image pickup on the key input section 15, the projector 1 determines that an image pickup operation has been performed (YES in step SA1). When such a decision is made, the 10 projector 1 controls the digital camera section 16 to pick up the then image of the screen S or the image of the screen S in a document-projected state where a display image based on document information. The projector 1 temporarily stores data of the picked-up image, e.g., a picked-up image as 15 shown in Fig. 4A (hereinafter called "document image") G1 in the RAM 13 as index information (step SA2).

Next, the projector 1 stops projecting the document being projected, irradiates only white light onto the screen S to set a non-projection state of the display image and 20 picks up the image of the screen S. Accordingly, the projector 1 acquires a picked-up image of handwritten texts or so as shown in, for example, Fig. 4B (hereinafter called "handwritten information image") G2 (step SA3). Then, the projector 1 records the document image G1 and the 25 handwritten information image G2 as a set in the memory card

4 loaded into the main body (step SA4). The projector 1 records both images G1 and G2 to which file names different only in the end (for example, "AAAA-1.jpg" and "AAAA-2.jpg") are affixed. Apparently, this process is to record both 5 images G1 and G2 in association with each other so as to make it possible to identify that the images G1 and G2 were recorded in the same image pickup operation. This completes a single handwritten information recording process. During projection of a document, the projector 1 repeats the above-10 described process every time the user performs the image pickup operation.

According to the embodiment, a document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 are recorded in the memory card 4 in association with each other. Therefore, a user or 15 the creator or so of the document can use the handwritten information by loading the memory card 4 into the PC 2 after the end of presentation or the like and displaying the handwritten information image G2 stored in the memory card 4. What is more, the user can easily know which projection of 20 which document the handwritten information was written.

Although the image of the screen S is picked up continuously in accordance with a predetermined image pickup operation by a user to acquire a document image G1 and a handwritten information image G2 consecutively in the 25 embodiment, the following way may be taken.

The projector 1 may acquire a document image G1 after acquiring a handwritten information image G2. Further, the timing for acquiring both images G1 and G2 may be the time at which a document to be projected is changed, not the time 5 at which an image pickup operation is performed. For example, the projector 1 may be provided with a detection section which detects switching of a document based on a change in the contents of RGB signals sent from the PC 2. Even when the detection section detects switching of the 10 document, the projector 1 keeps projecting a display image before document switching and picks up the image of the screen S after which it picks up the image of the screen S in a non-projection state. That is, the projector 1 may be constructed in such a way as to acquire and record a 15 document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 for every document. In case where there is no handwritten information, however, the projector 1 acquires and records only a document image G1.

The projector 1 may also be constructed in such a way 20 as to acquire a document image G1 at the timing when handwritten information is not written on the screen S, such as immediately after a document to be projected is switched or immediately after a page of the document is changed.

For example, immediately after a page of the document 25 is changed, the projector 1 picks up the image of the screen

S in a state where handwritten information is not written to thereby acquire a document image G1 and pre-stores the acquired document image G1 in the RAM 13 or so. The projector 1 acquires only a handwritten information image G2 5 when a user performs an image pickup operation.

In the embodiment, the projector 1 records the acquired document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 in the memory card 4. In case where the projector 1 has such a structure as to be able to output data to the PC 2, the projector 1 may output data (image files) of the document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 one after 10 another to the PC 2 which in turn may store the data of the document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 as one set in the memory device 23 or so. In this case, the PC 15 2 can store the original data of the stored document image G1 and the data of the handwritten information image G2 output from the projector 1 in the memory device 23 or so in association with each other.

The foregoing description of the embodiment has 20 discussed an example in which the projector 1 projects the display image of a document onto the screen S based on RGB signals output from the PC 2. However, the projector 1 can read out original data (document file) recorded in a predetermined format from the memory card 4 and project the 25 display image of the document onto the screen S.

(Second Embodiment)

The second embodiment of the invention is described next.

5 An image pickup apparatus according to the second embodiment of the invention is designed in such a way as to acquire a page number of a document through character recognition and records the acquired page number, taken as index information indicating the correlation between the 10 page of the document and a handwritten information image, and a handwritten information image as a set.

Fig. 5 is a structural diagram of a projection system according to the second embodiment. The projection system, like that of the first embodiment, comprises the projector 1 and the PC 2. Fig. 6 is a block diagram showing the 15 schematic structures of the projector 1 and the PC 2 in this embodiment. The projector 1 and PC 2 in the embodiment respectively have USB terminals 19 and 28 and are connected together by a USB cable 31. The USB terminals 19 and 28 are 20 actually provided in an USB interface circuit (not shown) connected to CPUs 11 and 21. Accordingly, the PC 2 can send data to the projector 1.

Like or same reference symbols are given to those 25 components which are the same as the corresponding components of the first embodiment and their redundant

descriptions are omitted.

The operations of the projector 1 and PC 2 in the embodiment are described below. First, the operation of the projector 1 is discussed.

5 Based on a flowchart shown in Fig. 7, the projector 1 executes a process of recording handwritten information during projection of a document output from the PC 2 as RGB signals. It is premised here that handwritten information, such as comments and underlines, is directly written on the 10 screen S by a participant in the presentation.

The projector 1 acquires the document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 as shown in Figs. 4A and 4B by performing an image pickup process according to an image pickup operation performed by a user (step SB1). This 15 process is the same as the process in steps SA1 to SA3 in the first embodiment illustrated in Fig. 3.

Next, the projector 1 acquires header information of the document which is projected (step SB2).

The projector 1 determines whether or not the header 20 information has information indicating a print position as position information of a page number (step SB3).

When it is determined that the header information has 25 position information of a page number (YES in step SB3), the projector 1 acquires the page number from image data of the document image G1 by performing OCR (Optical Character

Recognition) on the position of the page number (area corresponding to the position indicated by the position information) on the document image G1 (step SB4). Thereafter, the projector 1 records the acquired page number, taken as index information, and the handwritten information image G2 as a set in the memory card 4 loaded into the main body (step SB5).

When it is determined that the header information acquired from the PC 2 does not have position information of a page number (NO in step SB3), on the other hand, the projector 1 performs OCR on four corners and the bottom center portion a to e of the document image G1 as shown in Fig. 8, i.e., recognition areas which are likely portions where a page number is printed (displayed), and converts the images of the individual recognition areas (a to e) to text data (step SB6). The projector 1 checks the converted text data (step SB7).

Then, the projector 1 determines whether or not the text data comprises a numeral (step SB8).

When it is determined that there is a numeral (YES in step SB8), the projector 1 records the numeral, taken as a page number, and a handwritten information image G2 as a set in the memory card 4 (step SB5).

When it is determined that no numeral is present in any of the areas (NO in step SB8), the projector 1 causes the

user to input the page number through prompting or so (step SB9). When the page number is input, the projector 1 records the input page number and the handwritten information image G2 as a set into the memory card 4 (step SB5). This completes a single handwritten information recording process. During projection of a document, the projector 1 repeats the above-described process every time the user performs the image pickup operation.

It is to be noted that the process in the step SB5 is to record the acquired page number and handwritten information image G2 in association with each other so as to make it possible to identify that the page number and handwritten information image G2 were recorded in the same image pickup operation. This process is to give the same file names different only in an identifier portion indicating a data type, such as "AAAA.jpg" and "AAAA.txt", to the page number and handwritten information image G2 or record both data in the memory card 4 in the determined order, for example, with consecutive recording addresses given.

When the memory card 4 where a set of an associated handwritten information image G2 and page number or plural sets of associated handwritten information images G2 and page numbers are recorded is loaded and then a command to execute an image pasting routine is selected, the PC 2

executes the image pasting routine according to a flowchart illustrated in Fig. 9. It is premised here that a document to be processed is designed beforehand by a user.

The PC 2 first reads the handwritten information image 5 G2 from the memory card 4 (step SC1). Further, the PC 2 reads a page number corresponding to the handwritten information image G2 (step SC2). Next, based on the read page number, the PC 2 acquires the handwritten information image G2 stored in the memory device 23 and pastes this 10 handwritten information image G2 to a corresponding page of the document designated beforehand (step SC3). Then, the PC 2 repeats the above-described sequence of processes in order by the number of handwritten information images G2 recorded in the memory card 4.

According to the embodiment, as apparent from the above, the page number of a document is acquired through character 15 recognition and the acquired page number as index information is stored as a set with a handwritten information image. Therefore, the user can automatically 20 paste saved handwritten information to a corresponding page and use it without a need to check himself or herself to which page of the document the handwritten information saved at the time of projecting the document corresponds.

In the embodiment, the order of acquiring a document 25 image G1 and a handwritten information image G2 and the

timing of acquiring the document image G1 can be changed as needed as per the first embodiment.

In the embodiment, the projector 1 acquires the header information of a projected document from the PC 2. But, the 5 system may take such a structure as not to acquire the header information of a document from the PC 2. That is, the projector 1 and the PC 2 need not be connected together by the USB cable 31 and the same hardware structure as that of the first embodiment may be employed. In this case, the 10 processes in steps SB2 to SB4 in the routine shown in Fig. 7 may be omitted.

In case where the header information of a document is not acquired from the PC 2, the projector 1 may operate as follows. For example, the projector 1 records a set of an 15 associated handwritten information image G2 and page number or plural sets of associated handwritten information images G2 and page numbers in the memory card 4 by the same procedures as done in the first embodiment. Then, the projector 1 first performs the process of step SB6 for a 20 plurality of document images G1 at a time in response to the user's request. The projector 1 checks text data at the same position (area) in every document image G1 (step SB7). If the text data comprises a numeral (YES in step SB8), the projector 1 may use the numeral acquired from the same 25 position of each document image G1 in step SB5 as a page

number and may record each page number and a corresponding handwritten information image G2 as a set in the memory card

4. In this case, the page number corresponding to the handwritten information image G2 can be acquired more

5 accurately.

In the embodiment, the projector 1 records the acquired document image G1 and page number in the memory card 4.

However, the system structure may be modified in such a way that the projector 1 outputs document images G1 and page

10 numbers to the PC 2 via the USB cable 31 one after another and stores them in the PC 2 (memory device 23 or so).

Further, the system structure may be modified in such a way that the projector 1 outputs the document image G1 and handwritten information image G2, acquired in step SB1,

15 directly to the PC 2 and the PC 2 performs a process concerning acquisition of a page number, which is done by the projector 1 in the second embodiment, before the above-described image pasting routine.

The second embodiment, like the first embodiment, can be adapted to the projector which has functions of reading original data of a document recorded in the memory card 4 and projects the display image of the document onto the screen S based on the read data. In this case, the projector 1 may be allowed to perform the above-described

25 image pasting routine by the PC 2 in accordance with a

predetermined operation by a user or every time an image pickup operation is performed by the user.

(Third Embodiment)

5 The third embodiment of the invention is described next. This embodiment is the projection system of the second embodiment as shown in Figs. 5 and 6 which is so modified as to record a page title present on each page of a document, in place of a page number, and a handwritten information 10 image G2 as a set in the memory card 4.

It is assumed that a document stored as a document file in the memory device 23 has header information including position information indicating a print position of a page title present on each page as information on the document.

15 The operations of the projector 1 and PC 2 according to the invention in the embodiment are discussed below. To begin with, the operation of the projector 1 is discussed.

Based on a flowchart shown in Fig. 10, the projector 1 records handwritten information during projection of a 20 document output from the PC 2 as RGB signals. It is premised here that handwritten information, such as comments and underlines, is directly written on the screen S by a participant in the presentation.

25 In this embodiment, like the first embodiment, the projector 1 acquires the document image G1 and handwritten

information image G2 as shown in Figs. 4A and 4B by performing an image pickup process according to an image pickup operation performed by a user during image projection (step SD1). This process is the same as the process in 5 steps SA1 to SA3 in the first embodiment illustrated in Fig. 3.

Next, the projector 1 acquires header information of the document which is projected (step SD2).

10 The projector 1 determines whether or not the acquired header information has position information of a page title (step SD3).

15 When it is determined that the header information has position information of a page title (YES in step SD3), the projector 1 performs OCR at the page title position (area) on the document image G1, indicated by the position information. Then, the projector 1 acquires a page title from image data of the document image G1 (step SD4).

20 Thereafter, the projector 1 records the acquired page title, taken as index information, and the handwritten information image G2 as a set in the memory card 4 loaded into the main body (step SD5).

25 When it is determined that the header information acquired from the PC 2 does not have position information of a page title (NO in step SD3), on the other hand, the projector 1 performs OCR on an upper portion f of four of

the document image G1 as shown in Fig. 11, i.e., a recognition area which is a likely portion where a page title is printed (displayed), and converts the image of that recognition area (f) to text data (step SD6).

5 Then, the projector 1 determines whether or not text data is present in the recognition area (step SD7).

When it is determined that there is text data in the recognition area (YES in step SD7), the projector 1 sets, for example, two lines from the top of the text as a page 10 title (step SD8) and records the numeral, taken as a page number, and a handwritten information image G2 as a set in the memory card 4 (step SD5).

When it is determined that there is no text present (NO in step SD7), the projector 1 records only the handwritten 15 information image G2 in the memory card 4 (step SD5).

It is to be noted that the process in the step SD5 is to record the acquired page title and handwritten information image G2 in association with each other so as to make it possible to identify that the page title and 20 handwritten information image G2 were recorded in the same image pickup operation. The specific process contents are the same as those of the second embodiment.

When the memory card 4 where a set of an associated handwritten information image G2 and page title or plural 25 sets of associated handwritten information images G2 and

page titles are recorded is loaded and then a command to execute an image pasting routine is selected, the PC 2 executes the image pasting routine according to a flowchart illustrated in Fig. 12. It is premised here that a document to be processed is designed beforehand by a user.

The PC 2 first reads the handwritten information image G2 from the memory card 4 (step SE1). Further, the PC 2 reads title data corresponding to the read handwritten information image G2 from the memory card 4 (step SE2).

The PC 2 determines whether or not the title data read from the memory card 4 has data of a page title (step SE3).

When it is determined that the title data read from the memory card 4 has data of a page title (YES in step SE3), the PC 2 acquires data of page title on all the pages of the document designated beforehand and stored in the memory device 23. The PC 2 compares the page title data acquired from the memory device 23 with the page title data read from the memory card 4 as text data. Then, the PC 2 pastes the handwritten information image G2 to that page which contains a greater number of characters which match (step SE4).

In case where it is determined that the title data read from the memory card 4 does not have page title data (NO in step SE3), the PC 2 causes the user to perform manual pasting, considering that there is no page title. That is, the PC 2 causes the user to designate a corresponding page

by means of a display or the like (step SE5). Then, the PC 2 repeats the above-described sequence of processes in order by the number of handwritten information images G2 recorded in the memory card 4.

5 According to the embodiment, as apparent from the above, in case where there is page title data on each page of a document, the user can automatically paste saved handwritten information to a corresponding page and use it without a need to check himself or herself to which page of the 10 document the handwritten information saved at the time of projecting the document corresponds.

In the embodiment, the order of acquiring a document image G1 and a handwritten information image G2 and the timing of acquiring the document image G1 can be changed as 15 needed as per the first and second embodiments.

In case where the projector 1 cannot acquire page title data from the document image G1 in the above-described process (NO in step SD8), only the handwritten information image G2 is recorded in the memory card 4 in the subsequent 20 step SD5 in the embodiment. In that case, however, the projector 1 may record the document image G1 in place of the page title which could not be acquired and the handwritten information image G2 as a set as per the first embodiment. In this case, the PC 2 displays the handwritten information 25 image G2 at the time of pasting the handwritten information

image G2 to the page designated by, for example, the user's manual work (step SE5). This can allow the user to recognize to which one of pages of the document which do not have page titles the handwritten information image G2

5 corresponds.

In the embodiment, as in the second embodiment, the system may take such a structure as not to acquire the header information of a document from the PC 2. In this case, the processes in steps SD2 to SD4 in the routine shown 10 in Fig. 10 should be omitted. In case where the header information of a document is not acquired from the PC 2, for example, the projector 1 records a set of an associated handwritten information image G2 and page title or plural sets of associated handwritten information images G2 and 15 page titles in the memory card 4 by the same procedures as done in the first embodiment. Thereafter, the projector 1 may perform the processes of steps SD6 to SD8 and SD5 at a time in order to meet the user's request.

In the embodiment, the projector 1 records the acquired 20 document image G1 and page title in the memory card 4. However, the system structure may be modified in such a way that the projector 1 outputs document images G1 and page titles to the PC 2 via the USB cable 31 one after another and the PC 2 stores them in the memory device 23 or so. 25 Further, the system structure may be modified in such a way

that the projector 1 outputs the document image G1 and handwritten information image G2, acquired in step SD1, directly to the PC 2 and the PC 2 performs a process concerning acquisition of a page title, which is done by the 5 projector 1 in the second embodiment, before the above-described image pasting routine.

The projector 1 may have functions of reading original data of a document recorded in the memory card 4 and projects the display image of the document onto the screen S 10 based on the read data, as per the first embodiment. In this case, the projector 1 may be allowed to perform the above-described image pasting routine by the PC 2 in accordance with a predetermined operation by a user or every time an image pickup operation is performed by the user.

15

(Fourth Embodiment)

The fourth embodiment of the invention is described next. This embodiment is designed in such a way as to acquire a document by obtaining the correlation between 20 patterns of both a document image G1 and the original document using the document image G1 stored in the memory card as index information.

The projector 1 records a set of an associated document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 or plural sets 25 of associated document images G1 and handwritten information

images G2 in the memory card 4 by the procedures explained referring to Fig. 3. When a command to execute an image pasting routine is selected after the memory card 4 having both images G1 and G2 recorded there in is loaded, the PC 2 5 executes the image pasting routine according to a flowchart illustrated in Fig. 13. It is also premised here that a document to be processed is designed beforehand by a user.

Based on one page of data of a document stored in the memory device 23, the PC 2 generates image data of its 10 display image (step SF1).

With the generated image data as a standard pattern (template), the PC 2 executes pattern matching on all the document images G1 stored in the memory card 4 (step SF2). For instance, the PC 2 executes pattern matching to check 15 the correlation between two images on the image data level by moving the standard pattern while placing it over each document image G1.

The PC 2 determines whether or not there is a document image G1 whose pattern has a match (step SF3).

20 When there is a document image G1 whose pattern has a match (YES in step SF3), the PC 2 acquires a handwritten information image G2 corresponding to the pattern-matched document image G1 from the memory card 4. The PC 2 pastes the handwritten information image G2 acquired from the 25 memory card 4 to the document page from which the standard

pattern has been originated (step SF4).

The PC 2 determines whether the matching process for all the document pages has been completed or not (step SF5). When it is determined that the matching process for all the document pages has not been completed (NO in step SF5), the 5 PC 2 repeats the processes of steps SF1 to SF4.

When it is determined that the matching process for all the document pages has been completed after repeating the processes of steps SF1 to SF4 (YES in step SF5), the PC 2 10 determines whether or not there is any document image G1 which has not matched with any page in pattern matching (step SF6).

When it is determined that there is no document image G1 which has not matched with any page in pattern matching 15 (NO in step SF6), the PC 2 completes the process as it is.

Even when it is determined that there is a single document image G1 (or there are plural document images G1) which has not matched with any page in pattern matching (YES 20 in step SF6), the PC 2 carries out manual pasting by a user on each handwritten information image G2 recorded in the memory card 4 in association with each document image G1. That is, the PC 2 causes the user to designate a corresponding page, pastes the handwritten information image 25 G2 to the designated page (step SF7) and then terminates the

process.

According to the embodiment, therefore, the user can automatically paste saved handwritten information to a corresponding page and use it without a need to check 5 himself or herself to which page of the document the handwritten information saved at the time of projecting the document corresponds.

In the embodiment, the order of acquiring a document image G1 and a handwritten information image G2 and the 10 timing of acquiring the document image G1 can be changed as needed as per the first to third embodiments.

The foregoing description of the embodiment has discussed the process in which the projector 1 records the 15 acquired document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 in the memory card 4. However, the system structure may be modified in such a way that the projector 1 and the PC 2 are connected together by the USB cable 31, the projector 1 outputs document images G1 and handwritten information images G2 to the PC 2 via the USB cable 31 one after another 20 and the PC 2 stores them in the memory device 23 or so, as per the second and third embodiments. Further, the PC 2 may execute the above-described image pasting routine in real time. In this case, image data should be generated 25 beforehand for every page of the document and the associated document image G1 and handwritten information image G2 sent

from the projector 1 should be temporarily stored in the RAM 13 or so. Then, the PC 2 should perform pattern matching on image data of every page with the document image G1 as a standard pattern and should perform a process of pasting the 5 handwritten information image G2 to the document page from which the pattern-matched image data has been originated.

In case where the projector 1 has functions of reading original data of a document recorded in the memory card 4 and projects the display image of the document onto the 10 screen S based on the read data, as per the first embodiment, the projector 1 may be allowed to perform the above-described image pasting routine by the PC 2 in accordance with a predetermined operation by a user or every time an image pickup operation is performed by the user.

15

(Fifth Embodiment)

The fifth embodiment of the invention is discussed next.

An image pickup apparatus according to the fifth embodiment is designed in such a way as to convert document 20 information to a bar cord and combine the converted bar code with a document image.

The projection system of the fifth embodiment is the projection system of the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1 in which a program for executing operations to be discussed 25 later is stored in the memory device 23 of the PC 2.

The operations of the projector 1 and PC 2 are discussed below.

During projection of a document, the projector 1 and PC 2 operate according to a flowchart shown in Fig. 14.

5 The PC 2 reads data of a document, designated by a user operating the input device 24, from the memory device 23 (step SG1).

10 The PC 2 acquires document information included in the read data (step SG2). The document information includes a folder name indicating where data is stored, a file name and a page number. The page number indicates a page of a document to be displayed then, and is "1" at first.

15 Next, the PC 2 converts the acquired document information to a two-dimensional bar code which is two-dimensional information (step SG3).

The PC 2 combines the converted two-dimensional bar code to a predetermined location of a document page as display image data (step SG4).

20 Thereafter, the PC 2 displays the combined image data on the display device 25 and outputs it to the projector 1 via the RGB cable 3 (step SG5).

The PC 2 determines whether a page has been switched or not (step SG6).

25 When it is determined that a page has been switched (YES in step SG6), the PC 2 executes the processes of steps

SG2 to SG5 again.

During the execution, the projector 1 projects a display image as shown in Fig. 15, based on image data output from the PC 2, on the screen S. Along with the 5 projection, the projector 1 performs an image pickup process according to the image pickup operation done by the user, and records the picked-up image in a document-displayed state, i.e., a document image G3 having a two-dimensional bar code B at the lower left corner as shown in Fig. 15 and 10 handwritten information image G2 as a set in the memory card 4 loaded into the main body (steps SA1 to SA4), as per the first embodiment.

When it is determined that a page has not been switched (NO in step SG6), the PC 2 terminates this process.

15 In this manner, a set of an associated document image G3 and handwritten information image G2 or plural sets of associated document images G3 and handwritten information images G2 are recorded in the memory card 4.

When the memory card 4 having the document image G3 and 20 handwritten information image G2 recorded therein is loaded into the PC 2 and a command to execute an image pasting routine is selected, the PC 2 executes the image pasting routine according to a flowchart illustrated in Fig. 16.

The PC 2 first reads the document image G3 from the 25 memory card 4 (step SG11).

The PC 2 acquires the aforementioned document information from the two-dimensional bar code B included in the read document image G3 (step SG12).

Subsequently, the PC 2 accesses a file of a document 5 indicated by the acquired document information and reads the file of the document (step SG13).

The PC 2 pastes the handwritten information image G2 to the page corresponding to the page number included in the document information and records that data (step SG14).

10 Then, the PC 2 repeats the above-described sequence of processes in order by the number of document images G3 and handwritten information images G2 recorded in the memory card 4.

According to the embodiment, therefore, the user can 15 automatically paste saved handwritten information to a corresponding page and use it without a need to check himself or herself to which page of the document the handwritten information saved at the time of projecting the document corresponds. What is more, there is a merit such 20 that information other than document information can be assembled into the two-dimensional bar code B as needed.

The foregoing description of the embodiment has illustrated an example where the two-dimensional bar code B is used as two-dimensional information of the invention.

25 The two-dimensional information is not however limited to

this bar code, but other two-dimensional information which has a relatively small area, such as an intact code, may be combined at a predetermined location of a document and displayed in that fashion.

5 In the embodiment, the order of acquiring a document image G1 and a handwritten information image G2 and the timing of acquiring the document image G1 can be changed as needed as per the first to fourth embodiments.

10 The projector 1 and the PC 2 may be connected together by the USB cable 31, so that the projector 1 outputs document images G3 and handwritten information images G2 to the PC 2 via the USB cable 31 one after another and the PC 2 stores them in the memory device 23 or so, as per the second and third embodiments, for example.

15 In case where the projector 1 has functions of reading original data of a document recorded in the memory card 4 and projects the display image of the document onto the screen S based on the read data, as per the first embodiment, the projector 1 can perform the above-described image pasting routine by the PC 2 in accordance with a 20 predetermined operation by a user.

(Sixth Embodiment)

The sixth embodiment of the invention is discussed next.

25 An image pickup apparatus according to the sixth

embodiment is so designed as to store display history information, such as the display time or so of each page.

The projection system of the sixth embodiment is the projection system of the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1 in which the projector 1 and the PC 2 respectively have wave clocks 20 and 29 as shown in Fig. 17. The wave clocks 20 and 29 serve to acquire a display start time and a display end time for a document page and is used to acquire the same reference time.

The PC 2 of the projection apparatus according to the sixth embodiment generates display history information as shown in Fig. 19. The display history information is used to retrieve a handwritten information image G2 and is comprised of individual data of a management ID, a document name, a page number, a start/end flag, a start time and end time. The management ID, which is used to identify a displayed page, is given for each page displayed. The document name is the name of a document and is comprised of a folder name and a file name. The page number indicates a page of a document. The start/end flag is data showing display in progress when "0" and showing the end of display when "1". The start time and end time respectively indicate the time when the display of a document page has started and the time when the display of a document page has ended.

The operations of the projector 1 and PC 2 according to

the invention are discussed below.

During projection of a document, the projector 1 and PC 2 operate according to a flowchart shown in Fig. 18.

The PC 2 reads data of a document, designated by a user 5 operating the input device 24, from the memory device 23 (step SH1).

The PC 2 displays the image data of a predetermined page of the read document on the display device 25 and outputs it to the projector 1 via the RGB cable 3 (step SH2).

10 Subsequently, the PC 2 acquires the present time indicated by the wave clock 29 (step SH3).

The PC 2 stores the display start time of the document page, the document name and the page number in the RAM 22 (step SH4).

15 The PC 2 determines whether or not a display end operation, i.e., a page switching operation or a document display end operation has been performed (step SH5).

When it is determined that the display end operation has not been performed (NO in step SH5), the PC 2 stands by 20 until the display end operation is executed.

When it is determined that the display end operation has been performed (YES in step SH5), the PC 2 acquires the present time indicated by the wave clock 29 again (step SH6).

The PC 2 stores that time as the display end time for 25 the document page in the RAM 22 (step SH7).

The PC 2 determines whether or not the display end operation for the document has been performed (step SH8).

When it is determined that the display end operation is not the document display end operation (NO in step SH8), the PC 2 repeats the sequence of processes of steps SH2 to SH7.

Accordingly, display history information 100 as shown in Fig. 19 is stored in the RAM 22 in order.

When it is determined that the display end operation is the document display end operation (YES in step SH8), the PC 2 stores the display history information 100 stored then in the RAM 22 in the memory device 23 (step SH9).

During the above operation, the projector 1 projects a display image, based on the image data output from the PC 2, on the screen S (step SI1).

Thereafter, when the user performs an image pickup operation, the projector 1 stops projecting document information and picks up the image of the screen S in a non-projection state where only white light is irradiated onto the screen S, thereby acquiring a handwritten information image G2 (see Fig. 4B) (step SI2). It is premised here that handwritten information is directly written on the screen S.

The projector 1 then acquires the present time indicated by the wave clock 20 (step SI3).

The projector 1 stores that time data and data of the handwritten information image G2 in the memory card 4 loaded

into the main body (step SI4). That is, the projector 1 generates an image file in which the time acquired in step SI4 is stored as the image pickup time and records the generated image file into the memory card 4. The projector 5 1 and the PC 2 repeat the above-described operation every time a document page or a document to be projected is changed.

One handwritten information image G2 or plural handwritten information images G2 are recorded in the memory 10 card 4 in this manner.

When the memory card 4 in this state is loaded and then a command to execute an image pasting routine is selected, the PC 2 executes the image pasting routine according to a flowchart illustrated in Fig. 20.

15 The PC 2 first reads the display history information 100, stored by the procedures explained above, from the memory device 23 (step SH11).

20 The PC 2 acquires the start time and the end time between which the first page of the document was displayed (step SH12).

Then, the PC 2 retrieves a handwritten information image G2 picked up within the time from the memory card 4 (step SH13).

25 The PC 2 pastes the retrieved handwritten information image G2 to the first page of the document and records the

data in the memory device 23 (step SH14). The PC 2 performs the processes of steps SH11 to SH14 for other pages of the document. Note however that when a handwritten information image G2 picked up in the display time has not been 5 retrieved, the PC 2 skips the process of step SH14.

According to the embodiment, therefore, the user can also automatically paste saved handwritten information to a corresponding page and use it without a need to check himself or herself to which page of the document the 10 handwritten information saved at the time of projecting the document corresponds. As the image pickup time for the handwritten information image G2 and the display time of each page of a document which is recorded in the display history information 100 are acquired by the wave clocks 20 and 29 and are adjusted by the same reference, it is 15 possible to accurately associate handwritten information with each page of the document. What is more, unlike in the first to fifth embodiments, the handwritten information image G2 is the only image which is acquired while the 20 projector 1 performs image projection and recorded in the memory card 4 so that the memory card 4 can be used effectively.

In the sixth embodiment, the projector 1 and the PC 2 may be connected together by the USB cable 31, so that the 25 projector 1 outputs handwritten information images G2 to the

PC 2 one after another and the PC 2 stores the handwritten information images G2 in the memory device 23 or so, as per the second and third embodiments, for example.

In case where the projector 1 has functions of reading 5 original data of a document recorded in the memory card 4 and projects the display image of the document onto the screen S based on the read data, as per the first embodiment, the projector 1 can perform the above-described image pasting routine by the PC 2 in accordance with a 10 predetermined operation by a user. In this case, even if the wave clock 20 is an ordinary clock whose time is adjusted by a user, it is possible to accurately associate handwritten information with each page of the document as in the sixth embodiment.

15

(Seventh Embodiment)

The seventh embodiment of the invention is discussed next. An image pickup apparatus according to the seventh embodiment is so designed as to acquire a document by using 20 management information which manages the locations for a document, a document image and a handwritten information image as index information.

Fig. 21 is a structural diagram of a projection system illustrating the embodiment.

25 This projection system, like that of the second

embodiment shown in Fig. 5, comprises a projector 1 and PC 2 connected together by an RGB cable 3 and USB cable 31. It is to be noted however that the card interface circuits 17 and 26 shown in Fig. 21 are omitted from the projector 1 and 5 PC 2 of this embodiment.

The memory device 23 of the PC 2 includes an image data memory section 23a and a document data memory section 23b. The image data memory section 23a stores image data. The document data memory section 23b stores document data. The 10 memory device 23 stores image management information 200 as shown in Fig. 24. The image management information 200 includes a management ID, a document name, a page number and an image name. The management ID is information for specifying document data and image data. The document name is 15 a name to designate document data. The document name is comprised of a memory location in the memory device 23 where document data is stored and a file name. In the example shown in Fig. 24, "C:\AAA\BBB\" indicates the path to the memory location to store document data by a folder name and 20 "CCC.ppt" indicates the file name of the document data.

The page number indicates the page number of a document page to be displayed and is "1" at first. In the example shown in Fig. 24, the page number is "5". The document information is comprised of a folder name which is the 25 storage location for data, a file name and a page number.

In the example shown in Fig. 24, the folder name "BBB", the file name "CCC.ppt" and the page number "5" are the document information of this document.

The image name is a name to designate image data. The image name is comprised of a memory location in the memory device 23 where image data is stored and a file name. In the example shown in Fig. 24, "C:\AAA\DDD\" indicates the path to the memory location to store image data by a folder name and "01.JPG" indicates the file name of the image data.

The operations of the projector 1 and the PC 2 according to the invention are discussed below.

During projection of a document, the PC 2 and the projector 1 execute an image management information generating routine according to a flowchart shown in Fig. 23.

The PC 2 reads data of a document, designated by a user operating the input device 24, from the memory device 23, displays the image data of a predetermined page on the display device 25 and outputs it to the projector 1 via the RGB cable 3 (step SJ1).

Meanwhile, the projector 1 projects a display image, based on the image data output from the PC 2, on the screen S (step SK1).

Thereafter, when the user performs an image pickup operation, the projector 1 stops image projection, irradiates white light alone onto the screen S, and picks up

the image of the screen S in a non-projection state. Then, the projector 1 acquires a handwritten information image G2 (see Fig. 4B) (step SK2). It is premised here that handwritten information is directly written on the screen S.

5 The projector 1 outputs data of the handwritten information image G2 to the PC 2 via the USB cable 31 (step SK3).

10 The above-described operation is repeated every time a document page or a document to be projected is changed.

As image data is output from the projector 1, the PC 2 stores the input image data in the RAM 22 by an interruption process (step SJ2).

15 Further, the PC 2 stores document information included in the original data of the document displayed then in the RAM 22 in association with the image data of the handwritten information image G2 (step SJ3).

20 Thereafter, the PC 2 stores the image data of the handwritten information image G2 stored in the RAM 22 into the image data memory section 23a, designates an image name and stores the image management information 200 as shown in Fig. 24 into the memory device 23 (step SJ4).

25 Then, the PC 2 repeats the sequence of processes and switches a page to be displayed and output when there is a page switching operation during the repetition.

As the image management information 200 concerning one page or plural pages is recorded in the memory card 4 in this manner and a command which causes the PC 2 to execute an image pasting routine is selected by the user, the PC 2 5 executes the image pasting routine according to a flowchart illustrated in Fig. 25.

The PC 2 reads the image management information 200 from the memory device 23 (step SJ11).

The PC 2 reads image data indicated in association with 10 each management ID of the image management information 200, i.e., image data of the handwritten information image G2, from the memory device 23. The PC 2 pastes the read handwritten information image G2 to a document page with a page number corresponding to the image name and records the 15 data of the document pasted with the handwritten information image G2 into the memory device 23 (step SJ12).

According to the embodiment, therefore, the user can also automatically paste saved handwritten information to a corresponding page and use it without a need to check 20 himself or herself to which page of the document the handwritten information saved at the time of projecting the document corresponds. As the handwritten information image G2 is the only image which is acquired while the projector 1 performs image projection and recorded in the memory card 4, 25 the memory card 4 can be used effectively, as per the sixth

embodiment.

In case where, unlike in the seventh embodiment, the projector 1 has functions of reading original data of a document recorded in the memory card 4 and projects the display image of the document onto the screen S based on the read data, the projector 1 may be allowed to perform all the operations of the PC 2 described above.

(Eighth Embodiment)

The eighth embodiment of the invention is discussed next. This embodiment is the projection system of the second embodiment as shown in Figs. 5 and 6 which is so modified as to affix index related information to the property of a handwritten information image and record the data in the memory card.

As an image projected on the screen S is picked up, the projector 1 according to the eighth embodiment generates a property (attribute) 300 of image data as shown in Fig. 27 acquired by image pickup. The property 300 is comprised of general information and image information. The general information includes information about image data acquired by image pickup, i.e., a file name, size, date of generation and date of update. The projector 1 adds a target file and a target page as added data to the property 300.

The target file indicates a document to which an

acquired handwritten information image G2 is to be added, and is comprised of a folder name where document data is stored and a file name. In the example shown in Fig. 27, the folder name of the target file is "C:\AAA\BBB\" and 5 the file name is "CCC.ppt".

The target page indicates a page of a document to which the acquired handwritten information image G2 is to be added. In the example shown in Fig. 27, the target page is page "1".

During projection of a document, as the PC 2 outputs 10 document information and the RAM 13 stores the document information output from the PC 2, the projector 1 obtains data on the target file and the document page from the document information stored in the RAM 13, adds the data to the property 300 and stores the property 300 in the memory 15 card 4.

The operations of the projector 1 and PC 2 are discussed below.

During projection of a document, the PC 2 and the projector 1 operate according to a flowchart shown in Fig. 20 25.

As a user designates a document by operating the input device 24, the PC 2 reads data of the designated document from the memory device 23, displays the image data of a predetermined page on the display device 25 and outputs it 25 to the projector 1 via the RGB cable 3 (step SL1).

Further, the PC 2 sends document information included in the original data of the then displayed document, i.e., a folder name where data is stored, a file name and a page number, to the projector 1 via the USB cable 31 (step SL2).

5 During the above operation, the projector 1 projects a display image, based on the image data output from the PC 2, on the screen S (step SM1).

Further, the projector 1 acquires the document information output from the PC 2 and stores it in the RAM 13
10 (step SM2).

Thereafter, when the user performs an image pickup operation, the projector 1 stops projecting document information and picks up the image of the screen S in a non-projection state where only white light is irradiated onto
15 the screen S, thereby acquiring a handwritten information image G2 (see Fig. 4B) (step SM3). It is premised here that handwritten information is directly written on the screen S.

Then, the projector 1 adds the document information stored in the RAM 13 to the property of the image data acquired by image pickup and records the image file in the
20 memory card 4 loaded into the main body (step SM4). The above-described operation is repeated every time a document page or a document to be projected is changed.

When the memory card 4 where one handwritten
25 information image G2 or plural handwritten information

images G2 are recorded is loaded and then a command to execute an image pasting routine is selected by a user, the PC 2 executes the image pasting routine according to a flowchart illustrated in Fig. 28.

5 The PC 2 first reads the data (image file) of a handwritten information image G2 from the memory card 4 (step SN1).

10 The PC 2 acquires data on a target file and a target page from the property of the data of the read handwritten information image G2 (step SN2).

Subsequently, the PC 2 reads a document corresponding to the target file from the memory device 23 (step SN3).

15 The PC 2 pastes the handwritten information image G2 to the document page corresponding to the target page and records the data of that document in the memory device 23 (step SN4). Then, the above-described sequence of processes is repeated by the number of handwritten information images G2 recorded in the memory card 4.

According to the embodiment, therefore, the user can
20 also automatically paste saved handwritten information to a corresponding page and use it without a need to check himself or herself to which page of the document the handwritten information saved at the time of projecting the document corresponds. As the handwritten information image
25 G2 is the only image which is acquired while the projector 1

performs image projection and recorded in the memory card 4, the memory card 4 can be used effectively, as per the sixth and seventh embodiments.

What is more, as a target file and a target page to the property of the handwritten information image G2, it is possible to know a document page corresponding to the handwritten information image G2 directly from the handwritten information image G2. This brings about a merit of further improving the usability.

Although the projector 1 records an acquired handwritten information image G2 in the memory card 4 in this embodiment, a modification may be made in such a way that the projector 1 outputs handwritten information images G2 one after another via the USB cable 31 to the PC 2 which in turns stores the handwritten information images G2 in the memory device 23 or so.

In case where the projector 1 has functions of reading original data of a document recorded in the memory card 4 and projects the display image of the document onto the screen S based on the read data, the projector 1 may be allowed to perform the image pasting routine.

The foregoing descriptions of the second to eighth embodiments have been given mainly of the case where the PC 2 has a function of automatically pasting a handwritten information image G2 to a predetermined page of a

corresponding document. Instead, the PC 2 may be given a function of simply informing a user of a page corresponding to a handwritten information image G2 by an arbitrary method, such as displaying a page number or a page title, in each embodiment. This case also provides such an effect that when using handwritten information directly written on the screen S, a user can easily know in which projection of which document the handwritten information was written.

Further, the foregoing descriptions of the first to eighth embodiments have been given mainly of the example where the invention is worked out by using the projector 1 incorporating the digital camera section 16. The invention can however be worked out as the structure in which a separate digital camera is externally mounted onto the projector that has, for example, only a document projecting function. In this case, the projector 1 sends a predetermined shutter signal to the digital camera, as needed, to control the image pickup operation of the digital camera.

In the above-described embodiments, the CPU 21 generates a combined image by pasting a handwritten information image G2 to a document image. However, the projector 1 can acquire a document image G1 already handwritten as shown in Fig. 4A from the memory card 4 and project it directly.

What is to be recorded on the screen S is not limited to handwritten information but includes, for example, a writing or so pasted on the screen S.

The foregoing descriptions of the embodiments have been given of the example where the PC 2 acquires a document from a handwritten information image G2. But, the PC 2 can acquire a handwritten information image G2 from a document. In this case, index information indicating the storage location for a handwritten information image G2 corresponding to a document is stored in the file of the document.

Various embodiments and changes may be made thereunto without departing from the broad spirit and scope of the invention. The above-described embodiments are intended to illustrate the present invention, not to limit the scope of the present invention. The scope of the present invention is shown by the attached claims rather than the embodiments. Various modifications made within the meaning of an equivalent of the claims of the invention and within the claims are to be regarded to be in the scope of the present invention.

This application is based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-366005 filed on December 18, 2002 and including specification, claims, drawings and summary. The disclosure of the above Japanese Patent Application is

incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.